



STATE OF IDAHO



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Farmers Markets Springing Up Across Idaho

Spring is here! The growing season is upon us, and Idaho farmers markets are beginning to offer locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, honey, farm fresh eggs and fresh cut flowers to consumers.

Farmers markets are rapidly gaining popularity all across Idaho as consumer interest in locally grown produce continues to rise. "Consumers increasingly want to know where their food comes from. Farmers markets provide an excellent opportunity for them to establish a relationship with local farmers," said Lacey Menasco, trade specialist at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, "and with a wide variety of live music, arts and crafts, and ready-to-eat foods, they are a great place for a fun family outing as well."

This year Idaho boasts 54 markets across the state – more than double the 24 markets that were operating in 2007. Depending on the growing season in each area, the markets will be open in April or June and run through September or October.

Every year the Idaho State Department of Agriculture produces a Guide to Idaho Farmers Markets. The guide provides the dates, times and locations of the markets, as well as the point of contact for each. The guide can be accessed online at agri.idaho.gov. For more information about farmers markets contact Lacey Menasco at the Market Development Division at (208) 332-8535 or send an e-mail to lacey.menasco@agri.idaho.gov.

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